

# City of Brooklyn E-Newsletter

January 2011

Volume 1, Issue 1



Richard H. Balbier, Mayor



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City of Brooklyn

7619 Memphis Ave

Brooklyn, Ohio 44144

Happy New Year and welcome to the City of Brooklyn's E-Newsletter. We are excited to bring you this electronic edition of our community newsletter.

Published on a monthly basis, you will find this to be an informative and cost effective way to receive city information. Please refer to our home page of the City of Brooklyn website. Archived issues will also be available.

Thank you to all who helped to make the Holiday Gathering a success. The bands and choirs were fantastic! Thank you to all who participated and volunteered. The Cleveland Baptist Choir, Brooklyn Jazz Band, Saxophone Quartet and Show Choir along with the 3rd graders from Brookridge Elementary entertained us. A special thank you to Jerry Bower at the Immanuel Assembly of God who donated the pictures with Santa.

While Santa enjoyed his visit with the children at the Holiday Gathering he also was thrilled to see so many children while in his sleigh traveling through town and also at the Recreation Center's Skate with Santa! It's always a wonderful time in Brooklyn during the holidays!





## Fire Department News...

The Brooklyn Fire Department would like to remind our residents that you can contact us at 216-749-1212 to schedule a free home safety inspection or free installations of smoke detectors. If your smoke detector is more than 10 years old the Fire Department will replace your detector for free. You must be a Brooklyn homeowner. Stop by the station during normal

business hours 8:30-4:00. Fire personnel will also check your blood pressure for free during normal business hours. No appointments necessary.

Please do not use any fuel fed heaters indoors and please be careful not to overload electrical plugs and circuits. Contact us with any questions or concerns you may have regarding fire safety.

The firefighters are in the process of restoring our 1941 fire truck. This truck was only the second motorized fire truck that the city purchased. They are working on this during their own time and at no cost to the city. In the process of the restoration we are accepting donations so that we can continue to get the work done. Look for the fire truck in the Memorial Day parade! Anyone is

welcome to stop by and see the progress being made or if you have a story to share about our department's history we would like to hear it!



## Police Department News...

### Holiday shopping tips and reminders:

**Never leave your personal items unattended in your shopping cart.**

**Take only the amount of money and credit cards you need on your day of shopping.**

**In the evening hours park your vehicle in a well lit area and always be aware of your surroundings.**

**Never leave your items in plain view in your car when unattended, use your trunk.**

**Take down your G.P.S. unit from your windshield or dashboard mounts when leaving your car unattended.**

**The Police Department will conduct free home safety surveys and vacation checks. Please call 216-749-1234 to make an appointment. Residents going on vacation can have their home checked by the Police while they are gone. Call the Police Department and tell the dispatcher you're leaving, they will get the necessary information and your home will be checked until you return.**

The winter 2:00am-7:00am no parking ban has been in effect since November 1st and will stay in effect until April 1st, 2011. The "emergency no parking" ban will be put into effect any time the snow fall is 2 inches or more.



## Try This in the New Year...



### Double Tomato Bruschetta

6 roma plum tomatoes, chopped  
 1/2 cup sun dried tomatoes, packed in oil  
 3 cloves minced garlic  
 1/4 cup olive oil  
 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar  
 1/4 cup fresh basil, stems removed  
 1/4 teaspoon salt  
 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper  
 1 French baguette  
 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese

### Directions

1. Preheat the oven on boiler setting
2. In a large bowl, combine the roma tomatoes, sun-dried tomatoes, garlic, olive oil, vinegar, basil, salt and pepper. Allow the mixture to sit for 10 minutes.
3. Cut the baguettes into 3/4 inch slices. On a baking sheet, arrange the baguette slices in a single layer. Broil for 1 to 2 minutes, until slightly brown.
4. Divide the tomato mixture evenly over the baguette slices. Top the slices with mozzarella cheese.
5. Broil for 5 minutes, or until the cheese is melted.

## Important Phone Numbers...

Emergency	911	Library	216-398-4600
City Hall	216-351-2133	Post Office	216-398-9792
Police	216-749-1234	Animal Shelter	216-741-1213
Fire	216-749-1212	Board of Health	216-201-2001
Rec Center	216-351-5334	Brooklyn Schools	216-485-8100
Service Garage	216-635-4232	NOPEC	888-848-7914
Senior Center	216-635-4222	RITA (Income tax)	800-860-7482



## City Council Members...



Antony DeMarco	216-741-0655	tdemarco@brooklynohio.gov
Colleen Gallagher	216-398-8535	cgallagher@brooklynohio.gov
Joseph Magrey	216-661-9225	jmagrey@brooklynohio.gov
Thomas Murphy	216-635-4292	tmurphy@brooklynohio.gov
John Patta	216-233-7116	jpatta@brooklynohio.gov
Kathleen Pucci—Pres.	216-459-1195	kpucci@brooklynohio.gov
Kevin Tanski	216-635-4217	ktanski@brooklynohio.gov

City Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers located at 7619 Memphis Ave. Council recesses during July and August. Meetings are broadcast on WOW and Time Warner Cable.



## Building and Service Department News...

### Lead Safe Work Practices.

If your home was constructed prior to 1978, contractors hired for renovations are now required to comply with all of the rules and regulations of the United States Environmental Protection Agency regarding lead safe work practices when performing lead paint disturbing activities such as replacement windows; removal of interior or exterior wall sur-

faces and wood trim; and exterior paint preparation work in pre-1978 residential or child occupying structures. The contractor companies must also be EPA certified in lead-safe work practices to perform lead paint disturbing activities in those structures. These rules do not apply to work performed by the resident; however it is recommended that proper precautions be observed for the safety of you and your family. The City of Brooklyn has no enforcement authority regarding EPA rules. For more information, you may visit the EPA website at: [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead) or call 1-800-424-5323.



## Headwater Streets: Bringing the Benefits of Small Streams and Wetlands to a Neighborhood Near You!

Every river begins somewhere—its headwaters. Even the largest of rivers starts as a network of small headwater streams, many of which are small enough to cross with a single step, or don't even have flowing water year-round. And while we often marvel at the power and beauty of rivers, their headwaters seem to invoke little but disrespect—if they are noticed at all—as they are ditched, moved, placed in culverts or simply filled. Natural headwater streams and wetlands provide many important functions. They protect water quality, maintain natural flood control, trap sediment, and provide important habitat. However, these functions are largely or entirely lost when a river's headwater stream network is converted to urban and suburban land use. In our residential communities, rooftops, downspouts and roadside ditches have replaced small streams and wetlands as the headwaters of our local stream systems.

Gutters and downspouts may effectively transport rainwater from rooftops to roadside ditches and storm sewers. However, this rooftop-to-ditch system doesn't provide any beneficial headwater functions. The driveway-to-curb-to-storm sewer system is equally ineffective at protecting water quality, controlling downstream flooding and providing habitat.

How can we restore beneficial headwater functions in our own neighborhoods? By taking any of the following actions, each and every homeowner can mimic the functions of natural headwater systems in their own backyards:

Spread rainwater across the lawn instead of sending it directly to the storm sewer by **Disconnecting Downspouts**. **Plant a Rain Garden** to capture and infiltrate storm water runoff. **Landscape with native plants**, especially around water and drainage features such as ponds, wetlands, roadside ditches and backyard streams. Harvest rainwater and store it on site to water a garden or lawn by **Installing Rain Barrels or Cisterns**. **Establish a No-Mow Zone** around backyard streams and wetlands. Don't over fertilize your lawn—**get your soil tested**. **Reduce the amount of impervious surface wherever possible**. Consider mulch, gravel and other alternatives for walkways.

Contact Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District for more information. [www.cuyahogaswcd.org](http://www.cuyahogaswcd.org)

## In the News...

### City of Brooklyn and Prestolite Wire, LLC

Mayor Richard Balbier thanked Prestolite for their continued commitment to the City of Brooklyn and on December 16, 2010 presented a \$90,000 check which helped to offset the costs of energy efficient lighting and renovations enhancements to their facility. Accepting the check were: Steven Campbell, President; Bill Kress, Director of Operations; and Aron Beach, Vice President of Finance. In 2009 the City of Brooklyn was in jeopardy of losing this great company to another city within the region taking over 160 jobs with them. The City Administration and Council approved a Business Development grant and offered Prestolite assistance from that program to help offset the necessary energy efficient and renovations enhancements. This grant was paid by non-tax revenue funds. President, Mr. Steve Campbell, told the Mayor that Prestolite is continuing to grow with new products and employees, and they are very pleased that the City helped Prestolite make the decision to stay in Brooklyn.



#### Excerpt from the Parma Sun Post

##### Brooklyn to upgrade city website

By: Carly Zimmer - Correspondent Sun News

BROOKLYN—Users of the city's official website will find something different in the coming months as the city begins updating the site, said City Council President Kathy Pucci. "It is time for us to move forward," said Pucci, who said the project is intended to make the website more user-friendly. Goals of the upgrade are to provide current information and establish a stronger connection with residents. The software that is being used to generate the current website is free but yields limited capabilities, said Pucci. An upgrade in software would make the website easier to navigate. Tech consultants estimate that the upgrade will take about three months to complete. Also, in the works is a monthly newsletter.



## Brooklyn Historical Society News...

The Brooklyn Historical Society located at 4442 Ridge Road was founded in 1970. The museum is open on Tuesday from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Tours at other times for larger groups can be arranged. Eleven rooms of tastefully arranged furniture comprise the museum, along with rug weaving on a two harness loom. There is always a full size quilt on the frame and you are welcome to

come in and try your hand at either craft.

The Brooklyn Historical Society is looking for old area yearbooks, organization scrapbooks, local scrapbooks, and whatever old records you may have. Old family photos of local picnics, graduations, old family homes in the area, parades and gatherings are also in demand. We always have visitors researching their family history. We will copy items and return.

The society hosts tours for the 3rd grade classes of Brookridge School every spring and the students enjoy seeing what the area looked like “back when.” Call Barb at 216-941-0160 for further information.



## Animal Care and Control

Here are a few reminders and suggestions from your Animal Control Officer.

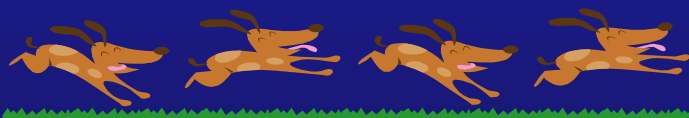
If you suspect animal abuse or neglect please report it. It is better to be wrong than do nothing at all.

If you have a dog that is left outside regularly please become familiar with the City of Brooklyn's animal ordinances—specifically 505.03 Animal Care Standards; Animal Neglect. While it is not illegal to leave a dog outside, our laws are very specific and if not followed, you could be cited for Animal Neglect.

It is against the law to allow your cat to Run-At-Large. Just like dogs, your cat must be contained on your property. The citation is the same if you don't. Please refer to Ordinance 505.11 Animals Running At Large.

Please call your Department of Animal Care and Control with any questions or concerns at 216-635-4291. If you have an animal related emergency please call the Police non-emergency number at 216-749-1234.

Don't forget to get your 2011 Dog License—you have until January 31, 2011. They are available through the County Auditor, County Kennel, Drug Mart and certain pet supply stores.



**Recreation Center News...****Brooklyn Recreation Friday Night Basketball****Brooklyn High School East Gym****Friday Nights Beginning January 21st, 2011 thru March 4th, 2011****Program Open To Residents Only!****Grade 1 thru Grade 6****Register at the John M. Coyne Recreation Center 7600 Memphis Ave.****December 11, 2010 & December 18, 2010****9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.****\$20.00 Registration Fee****You must show your current resident identification card at the time of registration.**

Registration Forms Provided at Registration. Session Dates:

January 21st; January 28th; February 4th ; February 25th

March 4th; March 11th; March 18th; March 25th

A \$15.00 Late Registration Fee will be charged for any registration that takes place AFTER  
JANUARY 17, 2011**Street Shoes will not be permitted on the gym floor. Please bring with you a pair of athletic shoes that will only be worn on the gym floor during your scheduled session.****If the school is closed due to inclement weather on a day the program is scheduled the program will be will not be held on that day.****Session Times**

<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Grades 1 &amp; 2 &amp; 3</b>	<b>6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.</b>
<b>Group 2</b>	<b>Grades 4 &amp; 5 &amp; 6</b>	<b>7:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.</b>
<b>Group 3</b>	<b>Buddy Basketball</b>	<b>8:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. Special Needs Students</b>

## Recreation Center News...

### Youth Soccer

Registration for Boys and Girls will be held at the John M. Coyne Recreation Center on the following dates:

Saturday, January 8—10:00am—Noon

Saturday, January 15—10:00am—Noon

Wednesday, January 12—6:30pm—7:30pm

Wednesday, January 19—6:30pm—7:30pm



**A Late Fee of \$15.00 Will Be Assessed For Any Registration That Occurs After January 19, 2011. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Program accepts children ages 3 through 14 years of age. Birth Certificates must be presented at the time of registration. Residents must show a current identification card. Parent volunteer coach applications will be available at registration. Coaches clinics will be held starting in February. U-6/U-8 play In-House-League. If you would like further information regarding the program please contact Soccer Directors Maria or Gerald Baker at 216-398-8775. Resident \$40.00; Non-Resident \$50.00; Travel Fee \$8.00.

### Skate with Santa

Mayor Richard Balbier ushered Santa onto the ice at the City of Brooklyn's Skate with Santa which was held on December 12th. Skaters young and old enjoyed an afternoon of skating to the sounds of the holiday season. The Brooklyn Figure Skating Club offered holiday face painting and many skaters' faces were sporting wonderful holiday decorations. Santa had a great time with Rudolph, and Frosty enjoyed talking with the children reminding them to be good not only during the holiday season but all year through. We hope all who attended enjoyed their time with us, we know Santa did.



### Brooklyn Memorial Park Pavilion Permits

Permit requests are taken beginning January 3, 2011 for resident groups and beginning February 1, 2011 for non-resident groups. Reservations may be made by calling 216-351-5334 Monday through Friday 8:30am-10:30am